



Conference Bulletin

published by ...

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL WELFARE

Volume 61

FALL, 1957

No. 1

Program Planning Time

SCHEDULE OF
Organizations whose names appear in
Number of Organizations

SUNDAY 2:00 - 3:00 P.M.
ORIENTATION SESSION FOR NEWCOMERS
Convention Center, South B
SPECIAL SERVICES AND
Exhibit Hall, lower level

MONDAY 5:30 P.M.
OPENING GENERAL SESSION
Arena
Expansion
11 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
PSYCHIATRIC SOCIETY
Meeting 2

TUESDAY 9:15 - 10:45 A.M.
COMBINED ASSOCIATE GROUP MEETING
Social Action and Social Welfare: Social
Public Policy
Presiding: Elizabeth Wickenden
Social Policy, National Social
City
What Social Welfare
Speaker: William
Education, A
min
W

WEDNESDAY 2:00 - 3:30 P.M. (cont.)
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
GROUP WORK SECTION
The Problem
NATIONAL CONFERENCE
Convention Center
Conference Reception
All those attending
reception

THURSDAY 2:00 - 3:30 P.M. (cont.)
149 COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL
STUDIES—Convention
Social Work and the Social
A review and progress
relationships and inter-di
sciences and social w
New Knowledge About
Lindeman Memorial Lecture

FRIDAY 1:30 - 3:00
152 COMMITTEE ON
Center, South B
Presiding
27 SECTION III—Group Meeting 4
Room 300
147 COMMITTEE ON PL
WELFARE—Group A
Room 300
Techniques for Ach

SATURDAY 1:30 - 3:00
229 COMMITTEE ON AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS
Room B
Speaker: James
and Director, U
University of Louisiana
Presiding
Assn
SECTION II—Group
Room 200
Work with C

ADVANCE
CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA
Social Service
Presiding
Assn
SECTION II—Group
Room 200
Work with C

THE CONFERENCE BULLETIN
of the
National Conference on Social Welfare
22 West Gay St., Columbus 15, Ohio

The National Conference on Social Welfare is a voluntary association of individual and organization members who have joined the Conference to promote and share in discussion of the problems and methods identified with the field of social work and immediately related fields. The Conference is a forum for such discussion. It does not take an official position on controversial issues and adopts no resolutions except occasional resolutions of courtesy.

President: Eveline M. Burns, New York City

Treasurer: Arch Mandel, New York City

Executive Secretary: Joe R. Hoffer, Columbus, Ohio

Editor of the Bulletin: Eula Wyatt, Columbus, Ohio

FALL, 1957

Published four times a year by the National Conference on Social Welfare.

Sent to all members in consideration of payment of three dollars as part of membership fees.

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The Yeast in State Community Organization for Social Welfare

Sputnik and the Asian flu notwithstanding, state conferences are holding their annual meetings this fall. The different geographic levels have a habit of selecting various seasons of the year for their social welfare conferences. Of course there are exceptions, but state conferences dominate the fall season, regional conferences are increasingly being scheduled in the winter, national conferences bask in the spring and international congresses flourish traditionally during the holiday season. We will have to find a new season when interplanetary conferences become practical and necessary.

Some agency Board chairmen may be tempted to draw invidious comparisons between Sputnik, the surprising Russian satellite, and the few human satellites who appear to travel in outer space from conference to conference, pausing just long enough to emit brief reports on climatic and intellectual conditions. Many more chairmen, however, recognize that thoughtfully planned conference attendance can contribute greatly to staff and board members and thus to the agencies themselves.

Nearly 40,000 workers and volunteers attend the non-academic educational offerings of the 48 State Conferences each year. Without benefit of the motivational researcher, we know that they come for in-service education and refresher courses; to meet old friends; for inspiration; and to learn more about and to discuss social welfare and the basic social and economic problems which bear on their day-to-day work.

We have to admit that they come (and their agencies encourage them to come) primarily to improve their present methods and techniques of work, but conference planners try to offer them a balanced diet, which includes consideration of broader problems and issues and opportunities to look beyond their present tasks. They believe that an individual will be a better worker or board member if he selects from each of the three major categories of subject matter—methods and techniques, generic aspects of social welfare and broad social and economic issues.

From these annual state-wide meetings have come greater concerns for state, national and international organization and programs. They have been a stimulus to increased state-wide planning and legislative action.

The form function might be called the yeast in any statewide effort in social welfare, be it planning, legislative action or financing. Without this ingredient, the final product is meaningless and without substance.

The forum function by the present state conferences of social work is of primary importance for the exchange of experience and ideas. Forums exist in all fields, in professions, crafts and vocations; directly or indirectly they involve the welfare, progress and activity of our entire population. Through them have come broad dissemination of specific knowledge, vastly improved trade and professional practices, higher standards of ethics, advancement of research and a sincere realization of public responsibility. The forum in social welfare can make its greatest contribution if it can operate in a democratic climate with broad representation from all segments and groups within the social welfare field—lay and professional, voluntary and governmental, allied and closely related fields—and representation from all geographic sections of the state.

While the state conferences have been operating for over a half century, state community organization¹ is a weak link in the over-all pattern of organization in social welfare. In the areas of planning and coordination, fund-raising and social action, state organization lags behind and suffers from underfinancing and lack of leadership. Effective organization on a state level has often been of limited significance.

This is a paradoxical situation since the state is in many respects our most important governmental and geographical unit for social welfare. While in recent years, the need for state community organization in social welfare has assumed increasing importance, this has been accentuated, not by internal state-wide forces, but by governmental and voluntary organizations which recognize the state as an important administrative unit for national operation.

There are several reasons why state organization in social welfare is important and needed.

First, governmentally, the state is the basic unit of the nation, as our very name the "United States" attests.

Second, public welfare services are the major services in social welfare.

Third, effective state-wide forum activities, planning, fund-raising and social action can assist local and rural communities considerably in meeting their needs and objectives.

Fourth, state community organization in social welfare is essential to successful forum activities, planning, fund-raising and social action programs at the national level.

Fifth, a state organization for social welfare can serve as a clearinghouse for international social welfare matters.

Defining the role of a state community organization in social welfare can be done only by the individuals and organizations responsible for social welfare within a state. Universal patterns have not emerged from the many decades of experimentation and experience, and it is probable that differences will persist. The variety of configurations of the major national agencies within a state, the patterns of rural-urban services, and the quality of services will play important roles in determining the structure of the state organization.

State conferences through the creative use of the forum function can provide leadership and direction in achieving appropriate state-wide community organization for social welfare. This opportunity to lead the way is a unique and timely one—an opportunity which should challenge their imagination and resourcefulness to strengthen this weak link.²

For additional material on this subject see:

¹State Community Organization in Social Welfare—A Weak Link, a paper presented at the Michigan Welfare League, Nov., 1956.

²Proposal for a National Service in the Field of Statewide Community Organization.

Both are available from the Conference headquarters on request.

J.R.H.

BALLOT TO MEMBERS**Vote to increase annual dues**

Ballots were sent to all members on October 4 for vote on the unpleasant but necessary matter of an increase in NCSW dues. The deadline for return of the ballots is November 5. A committee of tellers has been appointed by the President. The committee is comprised of Merriss Cornell, Chairman, Theresa Barkan, Portia Browning and Beatrice Farris. They are meeting on November 6 to audit the tabulation made by the staff. Early returns show that members are approving the increase by a count of approximately 4 to 1. An official report of the voting will be made in the Winter issue of the Bulletin. In the meantime, the mandate of the members will become effective on January 1, 1958. Many members took advantage of this opportunity to make comments about various aspects of the Conference, its organization and program of activities. We are hoping to summarize these opinions in the next issue of the Bulletin.

PROGRAM PLANS FOR 1958

The 1958 Program Committee met on September 27 and 28 under the chairmanship of Eveline M. Burns, Conference President. It was decided to follow the same general time schedule for the Annual Forum as last year, with a Conference Reception on Sunday afternoon, May 11, followed by the opening General Session at 5:00 P.M.

The Chicago program will see an important innovation. One day of the Annual Forum—Wednesday, May 14—will be devoted to consideration of a single major problem. The Section and Common Service Committee meetings, as well as the General Sessions, will all focus on the problem, which the Program Committee hopes will give an opportunity for workers in various specialties to see the relationship of their contribution to that of others.

Another purpose is to help the field as a whole take stock of where it stands and of what is and is not known about the problem and to foster a realistic view of which methods, techniques and programs appear to offer the greatest potentiality for dealing with the problem. Finally, the Program Committee believes that this approach may make the job of the newspaper and magazine reporters easier, since the very fact of selecting one major problem does in effect tell the nation that it is regarded as outstandingly important.

The topic which has been selected for the experiment is family breakdown or the broken family. It was chosen because of its intrinsic importance, the growing public interest in it, the great variety of social work skills, methods and programs and types of knowledge it relates to, and because it is an area where social work probably has more special knowledge and experience than any other profession or group.

The Program Committee discussed the implications of this new plan at some length and agreed that the Sections and Common Service Committees would make every effort to relate their meetings on Wednesday as closely as possible to the subject.

These tentative plans will be presented to the NCSW Executive Committee at its November meeting for comments and suggestions, and the Program

HEADQUARTERS HOTELS**85th Annual Forum — Chicago May 11-16, 1958**

Advisory Committee on Citizen Participation of United Community Funds & Councils of America and National Social Welfare Assembly	Morrison
Advisory Committee on Social Service Exchange, United Community Funds & Councils of America	Morrison
AFL-CIO Community Services Activities	Hamilton
American Federation of Internal Institutes	Morrison
American Humane Association, Children's Division	Hamilton
American Legion National Child Welfare Division	Sherman
American National Red Cross	Sherman
American Public Welfare Association	Sherman
Association of State Conferences of Social Work	Hamilton
Child Welfare League of America	Morrison
Church Conference of Social Work	Hamilton
Council on Social Work Education	Morrison
Episcopal Service for Youth	Sherman
Family Service Association of America	Sherman
International Conference of Social Work — U.S. Committee	Morrison
National Association for Retarded Children	Sherman
National Association of Social Workers	Morrison
National Association of Training Schools and Juvenile Agencies	Sherman
National Council of Jewish Women	Morrison
National Council Protestant Episcopal Church, Department of Christian Social Relations	Sherman
National Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centers	Sherman
National Legal Aid Association	Sherman
National Social Welfare Assembly	Morrison
National Travelers Aid Association	Sherman
Planned Parenthood Federation of America	Morrison
The Salvation Army	Morrison
United Community Funds and Councils of America, Inc.	Morrison
Volunteers of America	Sherman
Young Women's Christian Association of the U.S.A., National Board	Morrison

Annual Forum Dates and Locations

85th Annual Forum — Chicago	May 11-16, 1958
86th Annual Forum — San Francisco	May 24-29, 1959
87th Annual Forum — Atlantic City	June 5-10, 1960

EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The USES reported 812 job orders by 467 employers for 1,904 openings from 43 states plus Alaska, Virgin Islands, Hawaii and Canada at the Annual Forum in Philadelphia. There were 335 individuals applying from 32 states plus Puerto Rico and Canada. This compares with 1196 openings and 276 applicants at the St. Louis Annual Forum.

The employment service at the Annual Forum is co-sponsored by the United States Employment Service, the National Social Welfare Assembly, the Social Work Vocational Bureau which, incidentally has moved to 206 East 30th Street in New York, and the National Conference on Social Welfare.

The USES reports that employer's job openings may be filed throughout the year with any of the 1,750 local offices. If the local office cannot fill the job, the information regarding that opening may be quickly dispatched to 67 specially designated and qualified local State Employment Service offices in addition to the State Headquarters' offices throughout the country.

Committee will meet again in early January. The preliminary program will be printed, as usual, in the spring issue of the Conference Bulletin.

Many program suggestions and abstracts of papers have been received during the summer and fall from individual Conference members and the Associate Groups. These have all been distributed to the appropriate members of the Program Committee.

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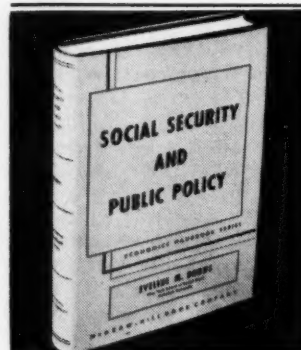
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EVALUATION OF PHILADELPHIA FORUM

This is the fifth year that a formal attempt has been made to evaluate the Annual Forum of NCSW. In 1953, we tried to answer the question, "Who attends the Annual Forum?"; evaluation studies of 1954, '55 and '56 told us what the attenders think of the forum organization and its meetings; the 1957 study in Philadelphia, planned by the program committee was directed toward the program leaders.

A questionnaire was sent to all presiding officers, speakers, discussants and panel members on the programs of the Section and Common Service Committee meetings. 64% of the participants returned completed questionnaires, covering 90% of the meetings.

The questionnaire was designed to secure answers to the following questions:

1. Were the objectives of the meetings clearly stated in the program?
2. To what extent did the meetings meet their stated objectives? What were the strong and weak points of each meeting?
3. What suggestions did leaders have for next year's Program Committee?

The answers are summarized as follows:

1. **Statements of Objectives.** 83% of the leaders thought that the descriptive paragraph about the meeting in which they took part provided an adequate basis for a person to know what to expect from the meeting. Suggestions as to ways in which the statements might have been improved included the following:

- a. Descriptive paragraph needed. (This applied to a few meetings where only a title was given in the program.)
- b. The title of the meeting or the paragraph could have been more accurate.

2. **Success in Achieving Objectives.** 87% of the participants thought the meetings in which they took part met the stated objectives. The strong points which were mentioned as contributing to this were:

- a. The nature and amount of floor discussion which was stimulated by the meeting.
- b. The points emphasized were well stated and integrated.
- c. Persons on the program worked well together in relation to a predetermined plan.
- d. Persons on the program were well informed and experienced.
- e. There was comprehensive coverage of the topic.

In relation to the meetings which were considered to have failed in meeting their objectives, the following reasons were given:

- a. The presentation was too theoretical.
- b. The subject was too broad and not stated in specific enough terms.

- c. The paper was incomplete, with gaps in the presentation.
- d. The program participants were poorly prepared.
- e. The leadership for the discussion was poor.
- f. There was insufficient time for the paper and/or floor discussion.
- g. Too few attended the meeting.
- h. The physical arrangements were so poor as to be a deterrent.

In rating the over-all content of the meetings in which they participated, the leaders considered that it was excellent in 22% of the meetings, good in 51% of the meetings, average (or all right) in 18% of the meetings.

The leaders were also asked to give their impression of the audience reaction of the meetings. They indicated that it appeared to be highly favorable for 13% of the meetings, favorable for 62% and average for 9%. The leaders felt some dissatisfaction on the part of the audience at 6% of the meetings and general dissatisfaction at 4% of the meetings.

65% of the leaders reported that there was sufficient time for the program of the meeting as planned, while nearly one-third of them indicated that there was not.

3. **Suggestions for Improvement.** Six suggestions for improvements were listed on the questionnaire. The program participants rated them as follows:

- a. Better physical arrangements — 42%
- b. Better planning in relation to amount of time available — 15%
- c. Changes in form of presentation of material — 10%
- d. Better explanation of purpose of meeting to participants in advance — 9%
- e. Better statement about subject matter to be covered in meeting to participants in advance — 8%
- f. Better statement in the printed program — 6%

A number of specific suggestions were made for improving physical facilities, and these have been turned over to the staff members responsible for Annual Forum arrangements.

Those who recommended changes in the form in which material is presented made the following specific proposals (listed in order of importance given to them):

- a. Discussion by the audience as a planned part of the program.
- b. Fewer papers in a single meeting.
- c. Open discussion of issues.
- d. Fewer discussants.
- e. Panel discussions instead of speeches.

The result of this survey, as of previous ones will be used by the program committee and the staff in their constant effort to improve the Annual Forum.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK PROCEEDINGS

If you have not yet secured the Proceedings of the 1956 ICSW held in Munich, order your copy now.

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Among the topics considered are: sociological theory, population research, collective behavior, urban and rural communities, industrial sociology, marriage and the family, racial and cultural relations, and the sociology of delinquency and crime.

1957.

588 pages.

Prob. \$10.50.

UNDERSTANDING MINORITY GROUPS

Edited by JOSEPH B. GITTLER, *University of Rochester.*

A survey of the status of the American Catholic, The United States Indian, the American Jew, the American Negro, the Japanese American, and the Puerto Rican in the United States. Prepared by ten outstanding authorities in the field, the book explores the thesis that discriminatory treatment among minority groups is closely correlated with specific racial, ethnic, or religious affiliation. The authors consider not only these old intolerances of race, color, and creed, but the new ones of ignorance, under-development, and stagnation as well. Subjects such as unequal access to the law, education and work, fair employment practices, immigration, and other intergroup restrictions are also treated.

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1957 — NCSW PUBLICATIONS — 1957

Publication is of materials presented at the Philadelphia Forum will be available this fall, sometime before the first of the year. The following books are being printed:

Social Welfare Forum	\$5.00
(official proceedings) 1957	
(free to all members except associate)	
Casework Papers — 1957	2.50
Group Work Papers — 1957	2.50
Planning Social Services for Urban Needs	2.50
(papers in Community Organization)	

Orders are being accepted in the Columbus office for any or all of these books. All members except those in the associate category will, of course, be given the regular discount of 10%.

“Significant Books in Social Welfare”

Books listed each year by the Conference as of special significance and offered to regular members at a discount are receiving increasing interest. The listing of books does not per se denote Conference endorsement and many truly significant and worthwhile recent books have not been included because we have not known about them, because of inability to secure the cooperation of the publishers or because of lack of space. Each year the staff has made greater effort to get evaluations of books published within recent years and to cover a wider range of the social welfare specialties as well as the general field. This year we are asking for suggestions from the deans of schools of social work as well as from the advisory committee on publications of the Executive Committee. This committee has asked that only books which are definitely in the field of social welfare and those which are not specifically designated as text books should be included.

All members are hereby asked to add their suggestions of books which they would like to have included. We would like to make this list of real help to NCSW members.

Suggestions for Nominations Requested

The steering committee of the Committee on Nominations will meet in Columbus early in February to consider candidates for the slate of officers and committee members to be prepared by the Committee on Nominations at their spring meeting. At that time they will select the candidates from which members will elect in the spring of 1959 the officers and committee members for 1960. All Conference members are urged to send to the Conference Office names of persons for these positions with information about their qualifications.

The Committee on Nominations decided that the sections for planning the '60 Forum would be located in the following centers: Section I, Baltimore; Section II, Portland; Section III, Buffalo. In submitting suggestions these locations should be noted.

Forms for submitting names may be secured from the Conference Office.

ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS

This completes the slate for the 1958 Elections

Executive Committee

For members-at-large

Sidney Hollender, Maryland Pharmaceutical Co., Baltimore

Michael Dacso, M.D., Dir. Dept. Physical and Mental Rehabilitation, Goldwater Memorial Hospital, New York City

Daniel Blain, M.D., Medical Director, American Psychological Association, Washington, D. C.

Committee on Nominations**Region II**

Antonio Sorieri, Dep. Commissioner, State Dept. of Social Welfare, Albany, New York

Region VIII

E. Roy Rogillio, La. Dept. of Hospitals, State Capitol Building, Baton Rouge

Paul Benner, State Dept. of Public Welfare, Baton Rouge

Members-at-large

Ernest Boehm, Gen. Mgr., Cleveland Housing Authority

Section I**Members**

Ruth Cooper, Associate Professor, University of California, School of Social Work, Berkeley

Harold Simmons, Superintendent of Social Service Department, San Mateo Co. Dept. of Health and Welfare, San Mateo, Calif.

Elizabeth MacLachie, Chief, Div. of Security, State Department of Welfare, Sacramento, Calif.

Members-at-large

Art Hellender, Asst. Sec., Central Labor Council, Alameda Co. AFL-CIO, Oakland, California

Section II**Chairman**

Irwin Shaw, Executive Director, Jewish Community Center, Detroit, Michigan

Members

John L. Stone, Associate Dir., Metropolitan YMCA, Detroit, Michigan

Virginia Crowthers, Executive Director, Grosse Pointe Woods Community Center, Michigan

Members-at-large

Charles E. Stewart, Jr., Principal, Grant School, Ferndale, Michigan

Mark K. Herley, Asst. Director, Detroit Housing Comm., United Community Services, Detroit, Michigan

Section III**Vice-Chairman**

Mrs. Cecill Sands, Brooklyn

Members

Alice Brophy, Little Neck, R. I.

Margaret Berry, National Federation of Set. and N. H., New York City

Marvin Cardoza, General Council, Bank of America, National Trust and Savings Association, San Francisco

Conference Calendar

Sept. 12	Committee on Combined Associate Group Meetings	New York
Sept. 27 & 28	Program Committee	New York
Oct. 11	Program Representatives of Associate Groups	New York
Nov. 7	Committee on Combined Associate Group Meetings	New York
Nov. 22 & 23	Executive Committee	Columbus
Jan. 10 & 11	Program Committee	New York
Jan. 13	Program Representatives of Associate Groups	New York
Jan.	Committee on Combined Associate Group Meetings	New York
Feb.	Steering Committee of Committee on Nominations	Columbus
March 7	Officers of NCSW	Chicago
May 10 & 11	Committee on Nominations	Chicago
May 11 & 16	Executive Committee	Chicago
May 16	Program Committee	Chicago
May 11 - 16	Annual Forum	Chicago

87th Annual Forum in Atlantic City to be held June 5-10, 1960

The 1960 Atlantic City Annual Forum will be held June 5-10 instead of May 1-6 as previously announced.

The suggestion for a change originated with the Atlantic City Convention Bureau. After a careful consideration of all factors and discussion with interested agencies and groups, the Officers approved the change as being in the best interests of the Conference. Our relations with the Atlantic City bureau have always been so good that we should like to accommodate them if possible; more important is the fact that an early June date appears to be preferable to the early May date for most of our members. Assurances have been received from the Atlantic City Bureau that the off-season hotel rates will apply to the June dates.

GROUP TRAVEL AND STUDY TOURS OFFERED BY INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK

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Tour SW-1 Leave San Francisco November 17, 1958
Program in Hawaii and Seminar in Japan prior to the Conference
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Return to New York on January 1, 1959
*Cost: \$2095 for 6½ weeks

2. Do you want to be home for Christmas?
Do you have to limit your time away from home?

Tour SW-2 Leave San Francisco November 17, 1958
Program in Hawaii and Seminar in Japan prior to the Conference
After the Conference programs in HongKong and the Philippines
Return to New York on December 17, 1958
*Cost: \$1490 for just over 4 weeks

3. Do you want to attend the Tokyo Conference at the lowest possible cost?
Do you have to limit your time away from home?

We are investigating the possibility of a chartered plane from the West Coast to Japan. (This will materialize only if there is sufficient demand — 55 persons or more — and only if an air-plane can be secured.)

Departure from West Coast November 18, 1958
Return at your convenience

Cost: Approximately \$775 for one way by chartered flight, return by regular tourist flight. This represents a considerable saving over cost of a round-trip tourist ticket.

*All prices announced by ICSW are tentative and subject to confirmation early in 1958.

Use this form if you wish further information:

To: U. S. Committee of ICSW, Room 300, 345 East 46th Street, New York 17, N. Y. or
Canadian Committee, ICSW, 1435 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario

Please send me information about the following:

- _____ Tour SW-1 (around-the-world with study program)
_____ Tour SW-2 (circle tour with study program)
_____ Transportation to Japan by chartered plane

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Mailing Address: _____

